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LARGE SHIPMENT
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Night-time Comfort.

Comfort is the key to restful sleep and our Pyjamas are the surest key to comfort.

We stock them made of "Viyella," "Jaeger" Wool and Ceylon Flannel in a nice range of stripes and plain colours.

PRICES RANGING FROM \$4.75 per suit!

MACKINTOSH

CO., LTD.

Men's Wear Specialists.

16, DES VŒUX ROAD.

Telephone 29.

LA MINERVA

CIGAR FACTORY.

ESTABLISHED 1883.

REINA MARIA CIGARS.

We beg to draw the special attention of smokers to this Cigar.

A very good and inexpensive smoke.

In boxes of 50 \$4.00 duty paid.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,

AGENTS IN HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA.

M. MASUDA & CO.

(The Home for HARDWARE in Japan).

4-chome, Yedobori, Minami-dori,

Nishi-ku, OSAKA, JAPAN.

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- (4) Electric Apparatus and Fittings.

We respectfully solicit correspondence for transactions in the lines as enumerated above. References: The Osaka Chamber of Commerce. Please state the Codes you use, and the same shall be resorted to by use when the character of a transaction calls for an immediate response by cable.

WANTED.

TWO or THREE LARGE OFFICE ROOMS in Central Locality. First floor preferred. Apply to—

TONG SENG & Co.,
18, Queen's Road Central.
(1532)

WANTED.

BUSINESS MAN (British), reliable and efficient with many years' experience in General Import Trade, is open for engagement and is desirous of getting in touch with first-class firm.

Apply—
ABC,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
(1572)

WANCHAI SCHOOL.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The prizes at this School were given away on Friday afternoon by Mr. E. Ralphs, Inspector of English Schools. The Headmaster, Mr. R. J. Birbeck M.A., read the following report:

During the year school was held on 229 days, with an average daily attendance of 247, the highest number on the roll was 269 in February, and the lowest 217 in January.

In the annual examination, held in July, 255 boys were examined and 235 passed in nearly all classes. Composition and colloquial were the weakest subjects. In class twelve boys out of 36 failed in arithmetic. In map drawing, classes A and B were poor. Apart from this, the work was quite satisfactory, and as recognition has been given up and the time used for colloquial or composition, we expect improvement in these subjects. With regard to the Chinese examination, Leung San, an reports that oral work was good, while the written work was satisfactory.

I have noticed that the boys are not at all fond of taking English and it is very difficult to get any kind of conversation from them. This, I think, is largely due to syntax, as they are not accustomed to European masters.

In the team race at the H.K.A. swimming sports this school took third place, and prizes were won in other events. Teams were also entered in the Hongkong Schools' sports, Queen's College and Yau-mai School sports. We entered a football team for the school Junior League. We are handicapped, as many other schools are, by not having a suitable playground. All the boys do physical drill, and it would be better if masters would take their own classes. At present it is all done by Mr. Chan P'o-shang.

The discipline of the school is good, but complaints have reached me of the boys kicking bins about in the roads near the school. This has been forbidden. Chinese boys who have adopted European hats seem somewhat slow in adopting European methods of salutation.

In March, Mr. Brown, Headmaster, left the Colony on active service, and Mr. Ian Pak Law took his place. Mr. Chan P'o-shang and Mr. Chung Shui Kuan joined the staff during the year, and Mr. An Lu Kuan and Mr. Mak Kins Chung left.

On April 30th the school was visited by the Committee appointed to inquire into the teaching of English at Government Schools.

During the coming year some alterations and necessary repairs to the buildings will be carried out by the P.W.D.

PRIZE LIST.

CLASS 4.—Lai Yau-kun, Wong Kwok-fung, Cheng Ho-lan, Pun Ho-2, Tso Lai-to, free scholarships at Queen's College.

CLASS 5.—Fung Ying-chon, free scholarship, Wanchai School; Lau Lo-lan, class prize; Ip Nim-on, class prize; U P'ok-ai, prize for Chinese; Mak Suk-ying, prize for Chinese.

CLASS 6a.—Chau Yan-tai, free scholarship at Wanchai School and prize for Chinese; Yau Lu-kun, class prize; Shiu Ping-shung, class prize; U Ting-kin, prize for Chinese.

CLASS 6b.—Tsang Sum-fui, class prize; Tsang Sum-fui, prize for Chinese; A. M. Fatty Dad, class prize; Chau Yau-kit, class prize; Chau Sik-chau, prize for Chinese.

CLASS 7.—Chau Yau-koi, free scholarship at Wanchai School; Chau Yau-koi, prize for Chinese; Lok Hui-sau, class prize; Mok Cheuk-kwong, class prize; Fok Pak-ku, prize for Chinese.

CLASS 8a.—Leung Mon Sit, free scholarship at Wanchai School; Leung Mon-sit, prize for Chinese; Sit Fui-hung, class prize; Hui Shing-lu, class prize; Lo Lu-wing, prize for Chinese.

CLASS 8b.—Lam Chun-ki, class prize; Lam Chun-ki, prize for Chinese; Pang Wai-kun, class prize; Chung Shui-ki, class prize; Lai Lai-chun, prize for Chinese.

Mr. Ralphs said the results of the annual examination were good, but he had noticed weakness in composition in the last papers he had seen. He wished to call particular attention to that subject and colloquial, as many firms in the Colony were anxious to obtain Chinese clerks who could talk and write English well. He suggested that Class 4, the Senior Class, should start an English-speaking club.

DISABLED JAPANESE SOLDIERS.

SYMPATHY WITH THEIR ALLIES.

The following letter has been written by Surgeon Colonel Ikutaro Goto, on behalf of 248 disabled Japanese soldiers:

To the Brave and Honourable Soldiers disabled in the Great War.

Dear Sirs,—I esteem it a great honour to be permitted to write to you and express our heartfelt sympathy for the brave and patriotic heroes of our honoured European Allies on behalf of our disabled fellow-soldiers now living in the city of Osaka.

You have bravely fought in the cause of humanity as well as for the love of your fatherlands against Teutonic barbarism, which regards all international law as a mere "scrap of paper." I would ask what more gallant and more patriotic soldiers could anyone find in the present war.

In sending you a letter of our deep sympathy and love, let me add that since the war with China and Russia, both of which countries are now our great friends, we have been in the same and conditions as you are learning by your own experience at present. However, humanity is one and the same everywhere throughout the whole world. It knows neither national barriers nor racial distinctions. Our heart is yours, your heart is ours, so I beg you to kindly accept our profoundest sympathy and our highest admiration which you so well deserve.

Please take good care of your health during these hot days, and remember that the glory of final victory is always on the side of the righteous, and is awaiting your brave and patriotic comrades now at the Front. May Heaven bless all our Allied peoples!

A reply has been sent through the British Ambassador at Tokyo.

SPORT.

CRICKET.

KOWLOON v. CRAIGENGOWER.

UNPRECEDENTED BOWLING PERFORMANCE BY COBB.

This match played at King's Park resulted in a smashing victory for the home side, although neither Stalker nor Claxton was seen to advantage. Kowloon, however, are a versatile combination, and Hodge, Stapleton and Macaskill hit the visitors' bowling to the tune of more than 120 runs, thus enabling their side to declare at 188. The catch by Abbas in the long field, which dismissed Claxton was a good effort, and Craigenower's fielding was a great improvement on some of their previous exhibitions. Of the visitors only Bass made any stand at the wicket, without his contribution Craigenower's score would have been one of the smallest of the season. Cobb proved altogether too much for the batsmen and took 4 wickets with 4 consecutive balls, feat which has never before been performed in Hongkong, and recalls a similar feat by Albert Trotter at his best match in 1907. Cobb dismissed Bass with the last ball of his 5th over, and with the first three balls of his 10th over "clean" bowled Edwards, got Kharras well caught at square leg and clean bowled Rose, finishing with 8 wickets for 34 runs. Pestonji also bowled well, though he only managed to take two wickets. At one stage Bass and Grummett looked like making a stand, but the latter player was unfortunate in being run out.

Scores:—

KOWLOON.
J. Staker, c Grummett, b Graham 0
L. E. S. Hodge, c Kharras, Abbas 45
F. Wheeler, b Graham 5
A. A. Claxton, c Abbas, b Graham 9
C. J. Stapleton, b Abbas 42
K. Macaskill, b Grummett 28
L. J. Blackburn, c Ford, b Grummett 22
F. E. Joseland, std. Pitt, b Grummett 13
Extras 11

Total (for 8 wickets) 188

P. H. Cobb, J. P. Robinson, and R. Pestonji did not bat.

Bowling Analysis:

Graham 18 2 49 3
Grummett 16 0 80 3
Abbas 5.2 1 35 2

CRAIGENGOWER.

R. Bass, b Cobb 28
M. H. Abbas, b Pestonji 3
F. S. Thompson, b Cobb 2
J. S. Graham, b Cobb 6
G. F. Ford, b Pestonji 2
A. W. Grummett, run out 5
L. A. Rose, b Cobb 1
W. W. Edwards, b Cobb 0
G. Sara, absent 0
D. K. Kharras, c Blackburn, b Cobb 0
W. Pitt, not out 4
Extras 4

Total 51

Bowling Analysis:

Cobb 9.3 0 34 6
Pestonji 9 5 13 2

CIVIL SERVICE v. MIDDLESEX.

This match was played on the Civil Service ground and resulted in a win for the home side, after a few anxious moments when the sixth and seventh wickets fell at 51. Only Tebbutt, of the Middlesex, made any sort of shape against the bowling of Bird, Hamilton and Dixon, and he was fortunate in being dropped twice. Bird bowled splendidly and had all the batsmen in difficulties, the soldiers' innings producing only 62 runs. Dixon and Goodall opened for the home side and in the second over the latter was splendidly caught at point. After this, Wickett and Dixon put on 30 runs before Dixon was given out leg before. The Middlesex were very clever in the field, and they saved many runs besides bringing off a number of first-class catches. Six wickets were down for 51, and the seventh fell without any addition to the scores, but Bird and Reynolds, playing carefully, took the score past their opponents' total and afterwards Ling and Bird hit out lustily. None of the Middlesex bowlers succeeded in hitting the sticks, and no fewer than four of the home team were given out leg before wicket. Wickett's 33, Bird's bowling, and Evans' catches were the features of the game. Scores:—

MIDDLESEX.

Capt. Smith, c and b Bird 0
Pte. Smith, c Lambie, b Dixon 0
Pte. Grove, c Bradbury, b Bird 8
L. Cooper, l.b.w. b Dixon 9
L/C Tebbutt, c Ling, b Bird 29
L. Dickinson, b Hamilton 1
Capt. Evans, c Bradbury, b Bird 0
Pte. Purnell, c Reynolds, b Hamilton 8
Hamilton 6
Capt. Padfield, b Bird 0
Pte. Woodward, not out 1
Pte. Haseman, c Bird, b Hamilton 6
Extras 6

Total 62

Bowling Analysis:

Dixon 5 2 13 2
Bird 10 1 31 5
Hamilton 5 1 12 3

Hamilton bowled 2 no balls.

CIVIL SERVICE.

W. Dixon, l.b.w. b Woodward 12
D. M. Goodall, c Evans, b Woodward 1
R. C. Wickett, c Padfield, b Cooper 33
Purnell 9
E. W. Hamilton, c Evans, b Bird 0
P. T. Lambie, c Evans, b Tebbutt 0
J. C. Fletcher, c Woodward, b Tebbutt 0
C. M. Reynolds, l.b.w. b Cooper 27
R. E. O. Bird, l.b.w. b Cooper 5
W. H. Edmonds, l.b.w. b Tebbutt 7
F. J. Ling, not out 10
Extras 3

Total 106

Bowling Analysis.

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D. M. Goodall, c Evans, b Woodward 1
R. C. Wickett, c Padfield, b Cooper 33
Purnell 9
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P. T. Lambie, c Evans, b Tebbutt 0
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Total 106

SANITARY BOARD.

FOUR QUESTIONS BY DR. OZORIO.

At to-morrow's meeting of the Sanitary Board, Dr. F. M. G. Ozorio, pursuant to notice, will ask:—

(a)—In whose property is the open sewer running parallel to the railway line in Kowloon?

(b)—Why is it not covered, as the practically stagnant water in it is a good breeding-place for mosquitoes?

(c)—Is the Head of the Sanitary Department aware that stench arising from it is a cause of much trouble to the children and the grown-ups who use the Kowloon playground?

(d)—Why has the foul smelling nullah in Glenalee not been attended to?

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF RICE.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of rice.

Defendant told the Magistrate that the rice was given to him by his employer, who had left the Colony and was unable to pay him his wages. Mr. J. R. Wood fined defendant \$3; with the alternative of ten days' hard labour.

A DEFENDANT'S GENEROSITY.

An old Chinese man was charged with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of opium.

Defendant said he bought it from a man for \$2.50. He admitted that he gave the constable a purse containing \$2.50 to "drink tea." He emphatically denied, however, that the money was intended as a bribe for his release; it was only a present.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced defendant to fourteen days' hard labour for unlawful possession, and six weeks' for attempting to bribe the *dukong*.

FALSE PRETENCES.

Two Chinese were charged with obtaining money by false pretences from a shop at 188, Wing Lok Street.

Sergeant Cockle said a man was sent from the country with a letter to draw \$450 from the firm. One of the defendants who bore a similar name stole the letter and presented it at the shop for payment, and the shopkeeper, unsuspecting, handed the money over. Subsequently he learnt that the money was not paid to the right man and he thereupon informed the Police.

Mr. Dyer Ball remanded the case till Thursday.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

There was no first division football at the Happy Valley on Saturday, the two matches down for decision having to be postponed at the last moment, as neither the Navy nor the R.G.A. was able to raise a team.

HONGKONG LEAGUE—DIVISION II.

SOUTH CHINA ATHLETIC, 1; ROYAL ENGINEERS RES., 1.

The usual large crowd of Athletic supporters watched this contest on the Club ground. The sappers played a good bustling game, and had quite as much of the exchanges as their nimble opponents. The first half was well advanced before the score was opened. The Athletic were the first to draw blood, putting in a rather high dropping shot which the goalkeeper let go weakly, through his arms into goal. Just before half-time the R.E. nearly managed to equalise, the civilian goalkeeper coming out of goal and missing the ball, which, however, was eventually cleared.

After the interval the game became very fast. What the sappers lacked in science they made up for in energy, and quite upset the play of their clever opponents. The equalising shot came from Millard at outside right. As the ball was crossing the goalmouth the goalkeeper, in attempting to punch clear, missed altogether and the leather entered the net. A beautiful shot from the civilians was saved by Cruickshanks when it looked very much passing just under the bar, and at the other end the sappers missed a particularly easy chance of scoring by putting in a very weak shot at close range. The Athletic forwards made several dangerous individual rushes, but they were well looked after by the two R.E. backs, who tackled and kicked in fine style. There was no further scoring, the game ending in a draw.

8th CO., R.G.A.—1; ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, 0.

This match was played on the Navy Ground and the result came as a considerable surprise to many. The game was a ding-dong struggle throughout, neither side being able to claim any special advantage. At half-time the goals were intact.

In the second-half Liversy put the gunners ahead with a high dropping shot, and they retained the lead until the final whistle sounded.

HONGKONG LEAGUE—DIVISION II.

TABLE TO DATE.

Club. P. W. L. D. Goals. P.

8th CO. 9 9 1 3 43 8 14

S. China Ath. 5 1 2 15 6 12

R.E. Res. 10 3 2 5 20 16 11

8th CO. 10 5 4 1 15 19 11

St. Joseph's 10 5 5 0 21 13 10

Staff & Depts. 9 4 3 2 13 13 10

Kowloon 10 2

These words were uttered by H.E. the

These subsidiary works were completed in 1904 and completed in 1904 at a cost of \$366,140. They included the construction of a reservoir with a capacity of 300 million gallons; the provision of a pumping station, containing two 1,400-horsepower engines each capable of pumping 10 million gallons daily; the laying of 10 miles of 18" mains and other subsidiary works.

On their completion, it was found that the finances of the Colorado Water Reclamation project were not so favorable as had been anticipated. The permit of the more extensive work contemplated being proceeded with on that matter therefore remained in abeyance until November, 1913, when the legislature for the extension of the project for the completion of the work celebrated the dam. The dam, which was estimated at \$1,416 million, nearly double the combined cost of all the reservoirs previously completed. Including the subsidiary works already mentioned, which were put out as a preliminary part of

on the success of his intercommunal plaques. It is a very serious question that it is only to-day that means of impounding water for water supply has overtaken the nation. That is not altogether the fault of the Government, as some might think. I remember that when I came first to the Colony the Tal Ram reservoir was needed, but it did not conclude to any constant criticism at that time. The man in the street of the Government was that great extravagance in water was necessary impounding of water was incurred by the Tiltan Reservoir. The improvements at the Tal Ram were not a great deal, and I remember the humorous saying of the then Chief Warder, Mr. Noylas, a countryman, to the effect that if no more were forthcoming for the improvement of the

(Continued at foot of next column)

The following is the subscription list to

that day comes I am certain a
improvement will take place.
were some improvements, and
improvement in education, late
since the war began, but
much room for improvement
these few words, ladies and
I ask God to bless this great d
and continued applause.)

The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham
three times. His Excellency
was heartily given.

Cheers were also given for
ham, on the invitation of M
Ventris.

The gubernatorial party th
the reservoir, after which th
to the ranch, arriving abou
at 8 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon tea w
en route.

During the month of January the City

9th December

Mrs. N. J. Stabb, City
Party, City Hall, Hongkong.

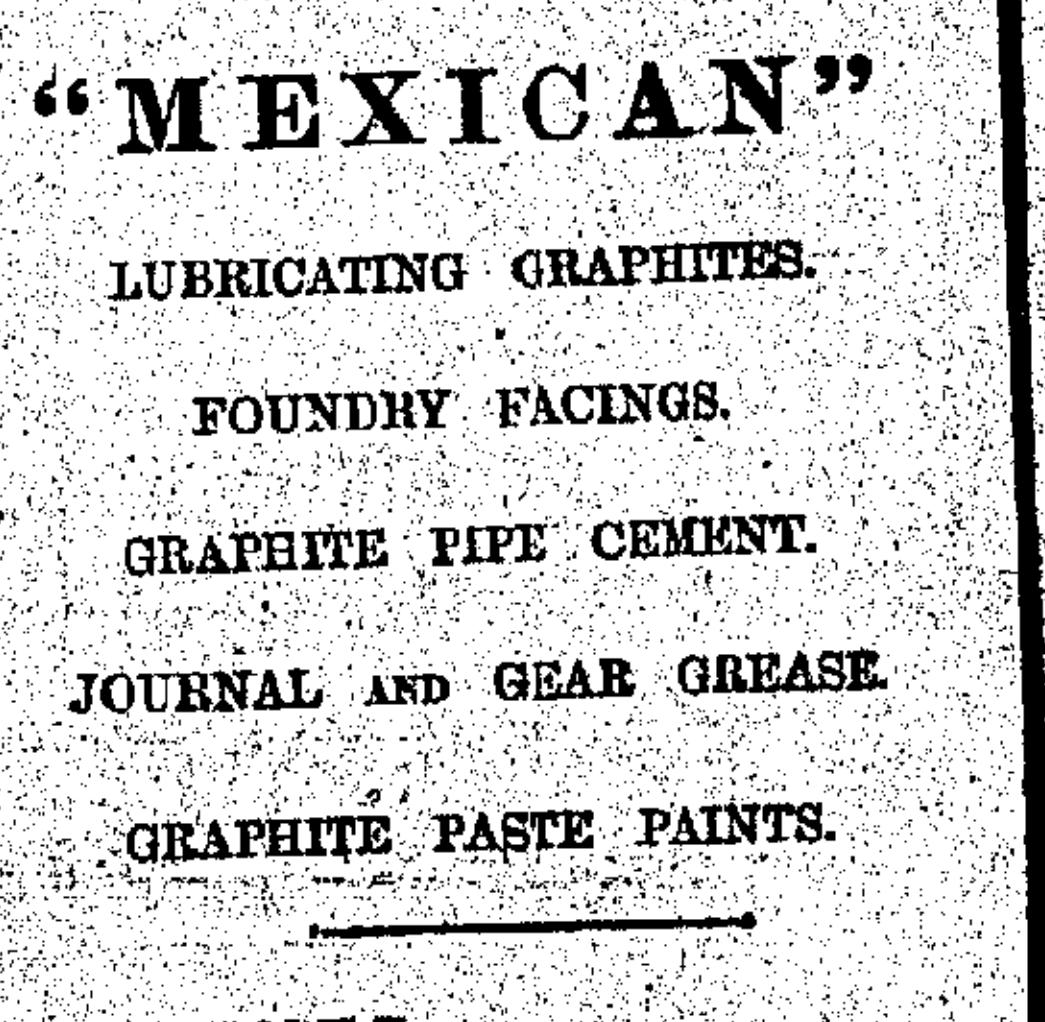
DEAR MARY:—I have the
pleasure of acknowledging with thanks the
two cases of Hospital comfort
by you.

These gifts are of much
value and are being distributed
to the sick and wounded, who grow
quite tame—Yours
Hector Howes
Stores Dept.

Lady Carmichael's Bazaar
War Fund, 5 and 6
Place, Calcutta
16th Nov.

Received with many thanks
Stabb the following article
(Continued at foot of next)

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.



SOLE AGENTS:
ANDERSEN, MEYER & CO.,
LTD.

 Hotel Mansions.  Telephone 1990.

REASONABLE INVEST

CANTON — C.M.S. GIRLS' BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL.
ST. HILDA'S — East Parade Ground.
 Principal: Miss **RENDELACK, M.A.**
 Dip. Ed.
 School Re-opens January 10th, 1918.
 Thorough English and Chinese Education.
 Fees moderate. [1459]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE,
HONGKONG."ST. GEORGE'S DAY"
23rd April, 1918.
DRAWING OF WAR
BONDS
IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES.**\$500,000**
(Hongkong Currency)

or more or less according to subscriptions.

PROSPECTUS.

Tickets \$5.00 each.
Prizes to be paid in Bonds of the Hongkong Government 4% War Loan of 1916 (which may be redeemed at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at par), and, in order to ensure that the scheme is productive of "new" money for war purposes, an equivalent amount of the prizes will be reinvested by the Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation in new British War Loan Stock.

Of the net amount subscribed, 75 per cent. will be distributed in prizes, the remaining 25 per cent. will be given to War Charities.

The amount to be distributed in prizes will be divided as follows:
First Prize ... 50 per cent.
Second ... 15 "
Third ... 10 "
Numerous smaller prizes ranging in amount from H.K. \$1,000 to H.K. \$50.

Winning Tickets must be presented at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hongkong, during business hours. Should any winning ticket not be presented before noon on the 23rd October, 1918, the ticket will be cancelled, and the value will be distributed amongst War Charities by the Committee of St. George's Society of Hongkong through the medium of the Hongkong War Charities Fund Committee.

The drawing will be in public, and the date and hour at which it will take place will be notified in due course by advertisement. The sale of tickets will be closed in Hongkong on SATURDAY, the 18th April, 1918. Any disputes arising will be decided by the Committee of the St. George's Society of Hongkong, whose decision shall be final.

The names of the members of the Committee are—

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK (President).
N. J. STARR, Esq. (Vice President).
His Honour Mr. H. J. J. GOMPERTZ.
G. S. ABCHUTH, Esq.
C. MONTAGUE EDE, Esq.
W. J. ELDRIDGE, Esq.
E. R. B. HANCOCK, Esq.
J. N. LEWIS, Esq.
Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.
J. H. RAMSAY, Esq. (Hon. Treasurer).
JOHN BANTLEY, Esq. (Hon. Secretary).
Tickets and Books of Tickets can be had on application at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and after a date to be announced shortly.
H. C. S. A. HORN (Hon. Treasurer).
CHAS. BRESWICK (Hon. Secretary).
St. George's "War Bond" Drawing.
[1882]

DANCE CIRCLE.

Spend a pleasant evening.
MONDAY AND THURSDAY,
9 P.M.31, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Ground Floor.
Next door to the Hongkong Cinema.
[1888]

JOINT SERVICE

"NEDERLAND" OF THE "ROTTERDAM
LOYD" ROYAL MAIL LINES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"WILIS"
having arrived from SAN FRANCISCO, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. No claim will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after Noon the 8th Feb. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriters on or before the 12th Feb. or they will be deemed waived.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 7th Feb. at 10 A.M., by the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.
No Fire Insurance whatsoever has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAVO-CHINA JAPAN L.N., Agents.
Hongkong, 3rd February, 1918. [1883]

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART
MAATSCHAPPIJ.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

THE Steamship

"VAN WAERWYCK"
having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 11th Feb. will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 9th Feb. at 10 A.M.

Claims against the steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognised. No Fire Insurance will be effected by the Underwriters in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAVO-CHINA JAPAN L.N., Agents.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1918. [1884]

INTIMATIONS

UNION WATERBOAT CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of Messrs. DODWELL & COMPANY, LIMITED, 1120 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 30th January to 5th February, 1918, both dates inclusive.
DODWELL & COMPANY, LTD.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1918. [1884]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND
BUILDING CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Office, Victoria Buildings, on SATURDAY, 9th February, 1918, at 11 o'clock A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of Directors and a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, 4th, to SATURDAY, 9th February, 1918 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOPPER,
Secretary to the

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY

General Agents for the

KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1918. [1886]

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Hongkong Hotel, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 9th February, 1918, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 4th February to the 14th February (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of shares can be Registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1918. [1885]

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO
STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE NINETY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, Hotel Macao, on THURSDAY, the 19th February, 1918, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 4th to 19th February, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
JOHN A. ARNOLD,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong, 21st January, 1918. [1888]

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED IN HONGKONG.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Head Office of the Company, Nos. 3 and 4, Queen's Buildings, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 14th day of February, 1918, at 12.30 o'clock P.M., for the purpose of proposing, considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Resolution, viz.:

"That the provisions of the Company's Memorandum of Association with respect to its objects be altered so as to read as shown in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of the Meeting."

Should the above Resolution be passed by the requisite majority, it will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to a Second Extraordinary General Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

A Print of the Memorandum as proposed to be altered can be seen at the Head Office of the Company.

Dated this 1st day of February, 1918.
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager. [1874]

NOTICE

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

ONE CERTIFICATE for One Hundred Shares Nos. 20241 to 20340 inclusive, in this Company, standing in the name of Mr. HECTOR V. PERVIER, has been LOST; and if at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the above Certificate be not forthcoming, another Certificate for the said Shares will be issued by the Company, and thereafter no other will be recognised.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 16th January 1918. [1880]

NOTICE

THE UNITED BRITISH INSURANCE
CO., LTD.

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom.)

HAVING been appointed MARINE AGENTS to the above Company, we are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS and issue Policies at Current Rates.

UNION TRADING CO.,
Agents.
Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 1st February, 1918. [1873]

INTIMATIONS

G. R.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE.

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

THIS OFFICE will be Open as follows:—

SATURDAY, 9th Feb.—

Liquor and Tobacco Permits—Whole day.

SATURDAY, 9th Feb.—

Import and Export Permits—6.11 P.M.

SUNDAY, 10th Feb.—

Liquor Permits—6.11 P.M.

SUNDAY, 10th Feb.—

Import and Export Permits—6.11 P.M.

TUESDAY, 12th Feb.—

For all purposes—6.11 P.M.

The Office will be wholly CLOSED on

MONDAY, the 11th February.

D. W. THATMAN,
Superintendent,
Imports and Exports.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1918. [1878]

G. R.

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE.

HONGKONG.

To the

OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 3 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BY-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such Building within the WESTERN Division of the City of Victoria, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or those parts of a Domestic Building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANSED and LIMEWASHED THROUGHOUT by the owners during the months of February and March.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in this Notice means that the Houses should be Limewashed in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all Ceilings, Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Booms in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its containing Walls Limewashed up to the level of the First Floor. Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be Limewashed, but must be Cleaned.

The Board is prepared to limewash FREE OF CHARGE a limited number of Buildings in those Divisions. OWNERS who desire to avail themselves of this offer should apply in writing to the Secretary on or before the 7th of February.

Choice among applicants will be in the absolute discretion of the President.

The WESTERN Division of the City lies to the West of Tank Lane and Cleverly Street.

C. M. W. REYNOLDS,
Secretary.
Dated this 1st day of February, 1918. [1875]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET—FURNISHED.

"CRAGSIDE," 149, Barker Road, Peak, for 6 months from 7th June next.
Apply—
A. H. SKELTON,
Care of LANE, CHAWWON & Co. [1848]

TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE at Mount Davis, Pokfulam Road, for February, March and April. Rent moderate.
Apply—
H. E. GOLDSMITH,
P.W.D. [1818]

TO LET.

No. 15, BURROW STREET, Wanchai ONE GODOWN.
"LEVENOR" No. 128, THE PEAK, from 1st April, 1918.
Apply to—
L. L. L. STEAD & DAVIS,
3rd Floor Alexandra Buildings. [39]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Ice House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
46, Connaught Road Central. [100]

TO LET.

OFFICES in York Buildings.
HOUSES on Shamene, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. [82]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. [1873]

WANTED.

By European, of a HOUSE or FLAT, Kowloon preferred, furnished or partly furnished. State terms and time.
Reply—
"CONFIDENTIAL"
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [177]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S
OLD BROWN
BRANDY

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD..

WINE AND SPIRIT

MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 618

BIRTH.

BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 2nd, at Government Civil Hospital, to Capt. and Mrs. B. BRANCH, a daughter. [1891]

DEATHS.

LYALL.—At Swatow, on the 29th January, Amelia Sophia A. Norwood, wife of Dr. A. LYALL, F.R.C.S. Mission, Swatow, and daughter of the late Charles Norwood, Berwick, King's Co., Nova Scotia. [1888]
WALKER.—Killed in action, in Palestine, on November 22nd, 1917, Captain GERALD BARNES WALKER, Somerset Regiment, late of Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, London Staff. [1880]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 101, DES VOEUX ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 4TH FEBRUARY, 1918

THE DAM AT TYTAM TUK.

In these days of terrible destruction it is a welcome relief to be reminded that works of construction continue. The official ceremony at Tytam Tuk on Saturday in connection with the water supply of the Colony marks the completion of a very important piece of engineering work, which will compare with anything of a similar nature in the world. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present statements and statistics illustrating the efforts made by the Government, and especially the Public Works Department, to provide sufficient water to meet the increasing demands of this rapidly growing Colony, which, as H.E. the Governor declared, is "only in her infancy." It is surprising to read, in the early records of Hongkong that the problem of water-supply was hardly considered at all during the first few years of the British occupation. We gain the impression that, in those days, although the knowledge of the deadly microbes which multiply in impure water had not been gained, the early pioneers had an almost blind faith in the virtues of alcohol as a prophylactic against the diseases to be apprehended from the use of water as a beverage. It may have been some such thought that induced His Excellency to use the dam at Tytam Tuk as a temperance platform. It may be doubted, however, whether all the efforts of the Public Works Department

to increase the supply of pure water will reduce the popularity of stimulants. We have the gratifying assurance, however, that, even if people do not always drink it undiluted, the water supplied to the public in Hongkong is as pure as any in the world. That is a very valuable asset, not only to subordinate members of the Civil Service but to the whole community.

Details concerning the great dam and the volume of water in the reservoir which it impounds will be found in another column, and we do not now intend to discuss the technical details. We desire, however, to re-echo the words of congratulation bestowed by H.E. the Governor on all of those concerned in the work, which is estimated to meet the demands of this Colony for the next fifteen years. Especially should it be emphasised that this enormous structure—which, we understand, is a most complicated and difficult piece of work—was designed by one of our local engineers, who also supervised the practical details involved in carrying out his plans. Mr. JAFFE has a lasting monument in the Colony, and the members of the Public Works Department have every reason to be proud of their colleague's work. We can only hope that the officials present on Saturday thoroughly realise the long training, the devotion to duty, and the boldness necessary for carrying out such an undertaking. Before the war it was our national weakness, now often deplored, that we failed to value properly scientific endeavour. There are, happily, signs of great changes in public opinion on the subject. There will be a very great demand for constructional ability to repair the dreadful ravages of the present war, and we may safely assume that every inducement will be offered to those sufficiently qualified to carry out the work. The British have a great reputation for bold designs in civil engineering practice.

Visitors who come to Hongkong for the first time are always amazed at the roads, the buildings, and other evidences of British civilisation which present such a marked contrast to those in Canton. These things, like the Tytam Tuk dam, remind us of the remarkable results which can be achieved by native contractors under adequate supervision. It is true that the Chinese workman often insists upon using his own methods, although better ones are suggested; but this wise over-seer is he who knows when it is important to insist upon modern ways and when it really does not matter what means are employed so long as the end is achieved. Anyone who visited Tytam Tuk during the building of the dam must have been astounded at the almost entire lack of mechanical appliances. It is, perhaps, not too much to say that, although this is sometimes called the steel age and at others the steam age, this massive structure was put together without either steel or steam being used except for the manufacture of the cement. It is built of granite, yet practically only bamboo, rope and human muscle were employed in lifting the blocks into position. It recalls the feats of the ancient Egyptians in building the Pyramids. While political and official China often makes us despair, the practical accomplishments of the workers of the country frequently fill us with admiration.

Those who journeyed to the ceremony on Saturday on foot must have been interested in the signs of road-making which were observable. The work of extending and improving the roads of the Colony now in progress is likely to prove a most remunerative undertaking. There are very great possibilities of development at the Eastern end of the island, and in a few years we may see a residential district spring up not far from Tytam Tuk. The initiative will probably be taken, as usual, by the British section of the community; but with the great increase in the popularity of the motor-car the better-class Chinese may be expected to avail themselves of the opportunity of acquiring new residences and gardens in the outlying parts of the Island.

H.E. the Governor has appointed Tuesday, February 12th (the day following China New Year's Day) to be observed as a General Holiday.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society will be held at the City Hall on Wednesday at noon. Mr. T. F. Hough will take the chair.

Rain fell only on one day during January—on the 26th, when 0.1-inch was registered.

The name of Hung Hing & Co., Ltd., is struck off the Register of joint-stock companies.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending 19th January amounted to 72,167 tons and the sales to 76,998 tons.

H.E. the Governor has appointed Dr. R. M. Gibson and Mrs. Daisy A. M. Gale to be members of the Medical Board, vice Dr. Aubrey and Dr. Marriott, resigned.

It is notified in the Gazette for general information that a memorial of re-entry by the Government on Oyster Bed No. 6 in Deep Bay has been registered according to law.

Tenders are being invited for the construction of roads from Repulse Bay to Tytam Tuk and from Repulse Bay to Stanley Gap, as well as for improving the road from Repulse Bay to Tytam Tuk.

It is notified in the Gazette that, at the expiration of three months from date, San Kwok Man & Co., Ltd., will, unless cause is shown to the contrary, be struck off the Register and the Company will be dissolved.

A fire broke out on Saturday night at Kowloon in a marsh standing on the Kowloon Dock Reclamation ground. The Fire Brigade and float were requisitioned, and the outbreak was subdued. The damage is estimated at \$400.

The eldest son of Capt. Lammert, who went to the Front with the London Scottish at the outbreak of war and after considerable service was sent home suffering from shell-shock, has now gone back to France in charge of a Chinese Labour Battalion.

A registered package addressed to Captain W. Wallace, 22nd Punjab, Indian Expeditionary Force "D," c/o Presidency Postmaster, Bombay, containing men's woollen underclothing is lying at the General Post Office, having been returned by the Bombay Post Office as undeliverable. The sender is unknown. The package was posted on January 12th, 1918, and will be returned to the sender on application to the Postmaster-General.

The following is a corrected list of the contributions of the Outports to "Heather Day" in Hongkong:—Fochow Scots (per Mr. Balfour), \$71; Amoy Scots (per Mr. Fenwick), \$278.12 and \$18; Mr. Forbes, Swatow, \$100; Commissioner of Customs, Swatow, \$4; Raffle at Swatow (per Mr. Forbes), \$100; Taipeh Scots (per Mr. Marshall), \$150; Saigon (per Mr. Kennedy), \$1,550; Macao (per Mr. Purves and Mrs. Millar), \$302; Manila (per Mr. J. Ormiston), \$85.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO"]

CANTON, February 3rd.

Commander Ngai Pong-ping wired on the 30th ult. to the authorities stating that after arrival at Young-kong on the 29th he co-operated with Commander Lam-tu, and attacked Young-kong city on the 30th. General Lung's troops were defeated and the city is besieged.

Another report from Commander Lam and Ngai states that they re-captured Young-kong city on the 31st. Lung's troops were compelled to retreat by the east gate, and were pursued by Canton troops. A very large amount of booty has been captured, and the two Canton leaders are taking steps to restore order in the city.

SOLDIERS IN COLLISION AT SWATOW.

A message from Swatow states that a quarrel broke out between the Defence Commissioner's (Lau Chi-luk) troops and the Yunan troops, which were sent to attack Fuhien over their military quarters. The trouble was eventually settled by Commander Chan Kwong-ming, who strongly urged the two parties to keep the peace.

ANOTHER CANTON ARMY TO KO-CHOW.

The Tuchen has ordered Lau Chi-luk, Defence Commissioner of Swatow, to lead his army to Ko-chow, and Chan Kwong-ming is appointed acting Defence Commissioner.

PROCLAMATIONS.

The following three proclamations are published in the Government Gazette:—The Geneva Convention Act, 1911 (Colonies) Order in Council, 1917, to come into force in the Colony on 1st February.

His Majesty's Forces in the Colony to be subject to the Army Act for a further period of three months.

Fugitive Offenders. Order of His Majesty in Council of 2nd January, 1918, proclaimed in the Colony.

THE WAR.

LABOUR STRIKES IN GERMANY: REPORTED RESUMPTION OF WORK.

TURKEY'S SECRET TREATY WITH THE CENTRAL POWERS.

AIR RAID ON GERMAN TOWNS.

SIR ERIC GEDDES ON THE SUBMARINE MENACE.

Franco-Belgian front

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

ENEMY RAID.

LONDON, February 2nd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy raided a post in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Staden Railway.

A few of our men are missing.

We beat off an attempt westward of Gheluvelt.

We captured 171 prisoners in January. Our aeroplanes bombed an aerodrome at Thielt and a dump at Courtrai.

SUCCESSFUL RAID.

LONDON, February 2nd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The Liverpool regiment successfully raided south-eastward of Armentières and brought back prisoners.

A hostile raid northward of Passchendaele was repulsed.

FRENCH FRONT.

SUCCESSFUL RAIDS.

PARIS, February 1st.

A communiqué states:—We carried out several successful raids in the region of Nieufort and north-west of Rheims. We took prisoners.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE LOSS OF THE "GIRALDA"

LONDON, February 2nd.

The Daily Mail Correspondent at Seville reports that the crew of the *Giralda* state that when stopped by a submarine on January 28th the *Giralda's* chief officer was ordered on board the submarine, whose commander wireless asking whether or not he should sink the ship. He received the reply "Yes," presumably from the German Embassy at Madrid.

The submarine crew then boarded the *Giralda* and robbed the officers and bombed the ship.

C.P.R. STEAMER SUNK.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The Canadian Pacific liner *Montreal* has been sunk in a collision. The crew were rescued by destroyers.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SUCCESSFUL ITALIAN THRUST

LONDON, February 1st.

An Italian official report states:—By a sudden thrust from Monte Valbella we reached the head of the Melago Valley. The enemy's strong attempt to dislodge us broke down.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AIR RAID ON ENGLAND.

THE CASUALTIES.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The Press Bureau states:—In Monday's air raid the casualties in all the districts were:—Killed, 38 and injured, 173, of whom 30 were killed and 91 injured in one building, used as an air raid shelter.

It is possible that a few more bodies may be found under the debris of the building, as four persons of this district are missing.

The total casualties in Tuesday's raid were:—Killed 10 and injured 10.

THE RAID ON PARIS.

OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST.

LONDON, February 1st.

An official report states:—The casualties resulting from the air raid cabled yesterday morning were 45 killed, of whom 31 occurred in the city and 14 in the suburbs, including 11 women and five children. Two hundred and seven were injured, of whom 131 were in the city and 76 in the suburbs.

AIR DEFENCE OF PARIS.

PARIS, February 2nd.

Le Temps reports that as a result of a conference between the Premier and the Under Secretary for Aviation it was decided to increase the aeroplanes defending Paris and to provide anti-aircraft barrages similar to London.

THE RAIDS ON GERMAN TOWNS.

AMSTERDAM, February 1st.

The Press Bureau announce the following details of the raids on German towns cabled on January 28th:—

The bombers dropped 889 pounds of bombs on Treves, scoring good bursts in the northern portion and centre of the town, and a large fire broke out in the north-eastern corner.

Eleven hundred and twenty pounds of bombs were dropped on the Thionville Steel Works. All the bombs burst and there were large explosions.

Two hundred and eighty pounds of bombs were dropped on the railway at Oberbiller, south-west of Treves, and the aviators machine-gunned the villages in the Moselle Valley.

Two hundred and eighty pounds of bombs were dropped on the railway station and junction at Saarburg, where there were large explosions.

The aviators in all cases machine-gunned the searchlights, trains and buildings.

Naval aircraft simultaneously dropped 1,344 pounds of bombs on the Badische and Sodalfabrik, and the dock in the town of Mannheim, causing an explosion in the factory.

Thirteen hundred and forty-four pounds of bombs were dropped on Thionville town, railway junction and factories.

The bombs were dropped from an average height of 1,500 feet.

One pilot made four attempts before reaching and bombing his objective.

The anti-aircraft gunfire was heavy and accurate.

BRITISH AIRMEN SENTENCED

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

The *Tages Zeitung* states that two British airmen, Lieutenant Sholto and Lieutenant Wooley, who were shot down at Cambrai on October 17th, have been sentenced to ten years' penal servitude by a German Military Tribunal for dropping "enemy leaflets."

NAVAL AIRCRAFT ACTIVE.

LONDON, February 2nd.

An Admiralty report states:—Naval aircraft on Wednesday bombed an aerodrome at Costamp, directly hitting a hangar and sheds and causing fires.

We brought down one enemy machine uncontrollable.

During patrols we brought down one and shot down two enemy machines uncontrollable.

One of our machines is missing.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE A.S.E.

LONDON, February 1st.

The Press Bureau states:—The official reply to Mr. Henderson's communication contains the claim that the Government admitted the engineers' claim to a separate treatment. The statement concludes: "It is necessary to realise that this is not the difference between the Government and one or more Unions, but between the Unions themselves. It is well known that the other Unions resented the Government meeting the Amalgamated Society of Engineers separately previously. The Government now agrees to meet the Amalgamated Society of Engineers separately, if the other Unions agree. There is no question that the Government must secure the man-power in the field, if men must be withdrawn from munitions. Dilute alone are insufficient to provide the necessary number."

"THE SUBMARINE IS HELD."

SIR E. GEDDES REVIEWS THE RESULT OF THE U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, interviewed by the Associated Press on the expiry of the first year of unrestricted submarine warfare, said:—"The submarine is held." The sinkings were now reduced to a level below that when Germany threw off all restraint, and he thought that we were now sinking submarines as fast as Germany can build them. The Admiralty could not foresee any change except for the better, but we must have more ships in order to turn the enemy's failures into a positive Allied victory, because the destruction of merchantmen still exceeded the construction, and tonnage demands were increasing leaps and bounds. Before the end of 1917 we should be building ships at a rate of more than double that of our record last year. Much depended on American shipbuilding efforts. He hoped America's efforts would be a contribution worthy of the great cause.

THE TABLES OF CURVES.

Referring to the tables of "curves" which were published from time to time, Sir Eric said all the curves were bending in the right direction, and that the destruction of Allied shipping decreased steadily, the construction of merchantmen increased steadily, and the sinking of submarines steadily rose.

THE MARGIN OF EXAGGERATION.

Sir Eric Geddes explained another "curve," namely, the statement of sinkings in the early months of unrestricted warfare. The margin of exaggeration was fairly small, but with the lessening of enemy successes last July, August and September the German exaggerations began to increase and were continuing to increase, thereby indicating a fairly accurate reflection of the German official confession of their measure of failure.

DECREASED LOSSES DUE TO ALLIED IMPROVED METHODS.

Referring to the United States War Secretary's warning about a concentration of submarines against the American transports, Sir Eric said there may probably be heavy Atlantic is not easy, if we were to transport the proposed numbers of American troops, but there was no evidence that the Germans were at present withdrawing U-boats in preparation for such a concentration. All the evidence showed that there were as many submarines now operating as ever. The decreased losses were due to the steady improvement in the Allied anti-submarine methods—they got fewer chances and met disaster more frequently.

DETERIORATION OF SUBMARINE CREWS AND COMMANDERS.

Our policy of secrecy with regard to U-boat losses was one of the chief causes of the steady deterioration of the German crews. Even the commanders of the submarines are not what they used to be. Brave, capable commanders-to-day were the exceptions, and the average submarine is in no way equal in efficiency to the U-boat of a year ago.

LETTER MAILS LOST.

LONDON, February 1st.

The Press Bureau announce that the letter mails for Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan and Hongkong posted between January 23rd and 25th were lost through the sinking of the Cunard liner *Andania*.

BRITISH EMPIRE'S RESOURCES.

LONDON, February 1st.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, in a speech in London, said that in view of the wonderful resources of the British Empire at present and its wonderful undeveloped resources, it is easy to see that after the war we will be perfectly able to meet our liabilities. Capital in Great Britain was absolutely safe, and the talk about the conscription of wealth was without foundation. Taxation of capital after the war, at a moment when the untrammeled development of our trade is certain to occur, will have the most fatal effect.

TURKEY AND HER LOST TERRITORIES.

LONDON, February 3rd.

M. Roberts, Minister of Labour, in an interview stated that there were the very best reasons to believe that, as a result of the Kaiser's visit to Constantinople, the four Great Powers had agreed to a secret treaty providing, firstly, that Turkey shall retain all territories which were in her hands before the war and shall remain an absolutely free state; secondly, that Austria, Germany and Bulgaria shall do their best to recover, on behalf of Turkey, the provinces of the Ottoman Dominions which were captured during the war; thirdly, the Sultan of Turkey shall retain the title of Khalif; fourthly, Arabia and Armenia shall be dealt with as Turkey thinks fit.

FOOD FOR CATTLE HORSES

LONDON, February 1st.

Mr. Prothero, speaking in London, said that as regards food, we were now crossing the rapids, and unless we pulled together we would sweep to disasters. There was only enough to feed working horses, hence carriage and pleasure horses must be killed or put to grass. Hunters, also, would have to go to grass. There was an immense shortage of concentrated feeding stuffs, and certainly not enough to feed all the cattle in the country. Sheep must be fed solely on grass.

A BANK AMALGAMATION.

LONDON, February 2nd.

A provisional agreement has been concluded for the amalgamation of the London County and Westminster and Paris Banks, whose aggregate deposits are £310,889,228.

ULSTER LEADER AT BELFAST

LONDON, February 1st.

Sir Edward Carson, who received a rousing reception at Belfast, said he had come to consult Ulster on the most serious situation.

BY-ELECTIONS.

LONDON, February 1st.

In the Prestwich bye-election, Lieut. Cawley, Coalitionist, son of the late member who has been raised to the peerage, secured 2,520 votes, and Mr. May, the Cooperative candidate, 2,538.

SOUTH ARMAGH.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The South Armagh bye-election was held yesterday and resulted as follows:—Mr. Donnelly (Nationalist), 2,316; Mr. McCartan (Sinn Fein), 1,299.

THE FLOODS IN QUEENS-LAND.

BRISBANE, February 2nd.

Mackay is almost unrecognisable. Scarcely any building escaped and many are in ruins. Nineteen bodies were recovered. The mortality is less than was feared. The rivers are again rising.

THE SILVER MARKET.

WEEKLY REPORT.

LONDON, February 2nd.

Messrs. Samuel, Montagu's report states:—The tone of the market is again easier. The fall in price is attributable to fear of supplies, as the demand, though not active, has been fairly good. Shanghai exchange, where some speculation is going on, has not moved sympathetically, but has actually hardened. The continued shrinkage in Indian Treasury silver holding and the impossibility of silver supplies expanding correspondingly to abnormal demand for mintage render the issue of rupee notes in India timely.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

LONDON, February 3rd.

The silver market is quiet. The silver market is steady.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO THE FARMERS.

NEW YORK, February 1st.

Measures have been announced intensifying the efforts for supplying food and troops to Europe. A Shipping Control Committee has been established to direct all ships, American, Allied or neutral, entering or leaving American ports. Supplies will be sent to various ports by fast through trains, and the railroad plans have been commandeered, at which it is possible to load 25 ships simultaneously. A whole new railway system for European supplies operates from January 1st under the National Railroad Administration.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S PEACE PROPOSALS.

WASHINGTON, February 1st.

President Wilson, in a message to the farmers in the United States, now in conference at Illinois, exhorting every effort to win the war on behalf of freedom, said that the achievement of this year by one side or the other must determine the issue. The President promises that the Government will do its utmost to aid the farmers, and concludes by asserting that the record-breaking crops of 1917 must be exceeded.

AVIATORS DROP BOOKLETS OVER GERMAN LINES.

HAVE, February 2nd.

Belgian soldiers from the front state that since January 10th Allied aviators were constantly flying over the German lines, dropping thousands of booklets containing the text of President Wilson's peace proposals, printed in German.

APPALLING CONDITION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

LONDON, February 2nd.

Reuter has received from a trustworthy Belgian citizen, who escaped to Valenciennes, an account of the appalling condition in the occupied districts of France, of which little news has reached England, which confirms that a highly organized system of slavery still exists.

All the civilians are compelled to work for the Germans. Ever little girls of twelve to fourteen years old cannot go to school because they must collect corn and nettles, and everyone wears a brassard showing the town he or she comes from. Some wear a brassard round their legs, denoting that they are tempted to escape.

The informant saw an old man with a large cross painted on his back, but he did not know what this signified.

The life of these civilians is dreadful, but nothing compared to the war prisoners, especially the English and Russian.

ARGENTINE AND GERMANY

LONDON, February 3rd.

It is stated that the Argentine has recalled her Military Attaché at Berlin and Vienna.

The Argentine Government in replying to the Notes from Peru and Uruguay, intimating Argentina's rupture with Germany, approves of their action as being in accordance with International Law for safeguarding the national sovereignty.

SWISS TROOPS ON THE FRONTIER.

BERNE, February 2nd.

In view of the general situation at home and abroad, the Government is reinforcing troops on the frontier.

GERMAN LABOUR REVOLT.

STRIKERS' COMMITTEE DISSOLVED.

AMSTERDAM, February 1st.

The Military Commander of the Berlin District has dissolved the Strikers' Committee and prohibited its meetings, "as the strike movement endangers public safety."

The formation of any new association to direct the strike movement is forbidden.

A Berlin telegram speaks of the excesses committed on January 31st "causing the Government to take the necessary measures against an extension of the strike."

The commander of Berlin has warned the population that disorders will be suppressed by all means, and participation in meetings is especially forbidden.

"VORWAERTS" REAPPEARS.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

Vorwaerts reappeared on the 1st inst. The latest Berlin newspapers of the 1st inst. report extensive disturbances over a large area of the capital. The solitary exceptions were Unter den Linden and Schlossplatz, which the papers significantly remark were empty. The worst disorders occurred at Moabit, where crowds of strikers tried to turn over the trams. The police, who intervened, encountered resistance and collisions occurred.

There were similar stormy scenes in the north and east of Berlin where youths and girls held the streets, attacked tramways and interrupted traffic.

The city tram service was suspended at noon. The strikers in some parts severed the electric wires in order to prevent the workmen from using the cars.

In order to go on shift fights were reported outside the factories between strikers and non-strikers.

INTERNATIONAL BUTCHERY.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

One of the leaflets distributed broadcast by the strikers in Berlin says the only way to overthrow the Government and the bourgeoisie is by the establishment of a Democratic Republic, which will arrest the international butchery and result in a general peace.

STRIKERS DEMAND PEACE AND BREAD.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

The *Työ* of the 1st inst. learns from a reliable source in Berlin that a crowd marched yesterday afternoon to Charlottenburg with cries of peace and bread. The police charged, whereupon the strikers erected barricades, using overturned trams. They fired and hurled projectiles at the police.

Thirty wounded strikers were removed to the hospitals. There were numerous arrests and house searches. Even detachments of cavalry and machine-gunners, who collected in the neighbourhood of Berlin.

SOME MORE GERMAN LIES.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

The Independent Socialist, Herr Dittmann, has been arrested for attempting to address a meeting in the suburb of Berlin.

The feverish anti-strike propaganda includes an officially supplied story, published in all the newspapers in Germany, that an *Entente* propaganda committee with a capital of a hundred million marks, supplied by America, has been formed with the object of inciting revolutions in Germany and Austria, and for employing numerous agents in Germany, especially in the armament industry, to incite to sabotage, etc.

It asserts that the committee includes Senator Stone, Lord Northcliffe and Earl Reading.

GOVERNMENT ATTACK FOR PUBLISHING FALSE NEWS.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The true situation in Germany, especially in Berlin, is obscure, owing to the increased rigour of the censorship. The Socialist newspapers accuse the Government of compelling the publication of false news.

The *Strasburger Post* declares that the Berlin papers were not allowed to refer to the political character of the strike.

Communication between Berlin and the provinces is difficult.

The *Vorwaerts* again warns the Government against violence, while the Conservative Press exhorts strong action against the strikers.

Wholesale arrests continue.

The *Vorwaerts* reports the formation of a general committee of trade unions, outwardly neutral but unanimously sympathetic towards the strikers.

WORK RESUMED.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

A semi-official message from Berlin, dated February 1st, declares that the strike has passed its zenith. It minimizes the number of days of the occurrences.

In Berlin the traffic conditions have improved and work is being resumed at Hamburg, Kiel and the coalfields, while Krupp's are in full swing.

DUTCH REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISTS.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

The Dutch revolutionary Socialists have resolved to call a general strike on Monday and demand the Government to seize all foodstuffs in the country and to distribute them equally to the population.

BULGARIA'S WAR AIMS.

AMSTERDAM, February 2nd.

A message from Sofia says that the Bulgarian Premier, M. Radostavoff, declared that Bulgaria's war aim was the reunion of Dobruja, Morava and Macedonia with Bulgaria.

MAXIMUM PRICE FOR RICE.

ACTION BY FOOD CONTROLLER.

LONDON, February 3rd.

The Food Controller has fixed a maximum retail price for rice at 4d. per pound, but scheduled quantities may be retailed for more than 6d. per pound, provided the retailer has rice on sale at 4d. or less.

The scheduled quantities mentioned are: Remyla Java, remilla Java (Patna), remilla Siam and garden Siam qualities, Spanish and Carolina and other North American rice.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

LONDON, February 2nd.

The *Times* Correspondent at Petrograd says:—The Bolsheviks are determined to get possession of the funds from the Russian Government abroad by prohibiting British and other foreign Embassies and Consulates to touch their deposits in the Russian banks.

POLISH LEGIONARIES OCCUPY ROGATCHEFF.

PETROGRAD, February 1st.

Twenty-six thousand Polish Legionaries, commanded by Polish generals, occupied Rogatcheff upon which the Provisional Soviet demanded evacuation and submission by the Polish Staff, intimating that the fate of a number of Polish land-owners, members of the Cadet Party and others who are hostages depended upon their answer.

SOVIET TROOPS SUCCESS.

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THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3
Sole Agents
MITU BUSSAN KAISHA
Tel. No. 220 or 155.

THE WAR.

(Continued from page 5.)

General.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

GERMAN LABOUR REVOLT.
VIEWED WITH SUSPICION

LONDON, February 1st.
There is still some suspicion here regarding the strikes in Germany.
For example, referring to the statement in *Vorwaerts*, "Now the British and French workmen can show whether they mean peace as seriously as the Germans," the *Times* suggests the possibility that the so-called spontaneous strikes are encouraged from high quarters in order to convey a false idea that democratic ideals will be satisfied. The German militiamen are quite ready to acquiesce in such a scheme, provided it retains the means to restore their power, but the movement may be difficult to control when once started.

WORKERS ORDERED TO RESUME

AMSTERDAM, February 1st.
The *Cologne Gazette* states that the military has ordered all Hamburg workmen to resume work. It intimates that those liable to military service who fail to return to work immediately will be incorporated in the Army and forced to work.

STRIKES ENDANGERING GERMAN
GIANT ATTACK

LONDON, February 1st.
There is no indication that the strike movement in Germany is slackening.
In the Bavarian Lower House, the Minister of the Interior denounced the strikers and asked, "Would they destroy what their own sons had built up on the battlefield?"

The Liberal Deputy, Herr Hammer-
schied, declared that the strikers were
endangering the success of the giant
attack which was intended to bring a
decision in Germany's favour.

The *Kreuzzeitung* suggests that the
strikers' food allowance should be cut
down.

A PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL
AFRICAN STATE

CALMING PORTUGUESE MINDS.

LONDON, February 1st.
Correspondence between the Royal
Geographical Society and the Geo-
graphical Society of Lisbon in November
has been published.

The latter wrote saying that the
Portuguese nation was most alarmed at
the Labourite proposal to found a kind
of International State in Africa, the
chief reason of alarm being that Mr.
Henderson was a former Cabinet
Minister. But the Society contradicted
the report that Mr. Henderson was
settling with the knowledge of the Gov-
ernment. The Society declared that the
Anglo-Portuguese Alliance does not per-
mit of the practicability of such an idea,
and solicited the opinion of the Royal
Geographical Society.

Sir Thomas Holdich replied, express-
ing the opinion that no serious opinion
exists in Great Britain in favour of such
a proposal, to which no serious importance
should be attached.

Lisbon has replied thanking the Society
for the message "which has had the best
effect in calming our minds."

COTTON EXPORTS TO THE
EAST.

THE SHIPPING SHORTAGE

LONDON, February 1st.
Replying to a deputation of the
Manchester Chamber of Commerce re-
garding the shortage of shipping in con-
nection with cotton exports to India and
the East, the Shipping Controller, ac-
cording to the *Manchester Guardian*,
stated that he would endeavour to make
every practicable provision, but regretted
that it was impossible to promise any
considerable alteration at present.

The Controller pointed out that owing
to the reduction of tonnage and the
necessity of giving priority to food, it
would probably be impossible to main-
tain imports of cotton at the level of
last year.

ADDRESS TO LORD
LANDSDOWNE.DETERMINED ON AN HONOUR-
ABLE PEACE

LONDON, February 1st.
Replying to a congratulatory address
from an influential deputation introduced
by Lord Loreburn, Lord Lansdowne de-
clared that he and his sympathisers were
determined on an honourable and durable
peace. It was unthinkable, he said,
that we should be disposed to our Allies.
He concurred with the Prime Minister's
re-statement of the war aims, on January
18th, which were calculated to carry the
endorsement of moderate opinion the
world over.

THE LOSS OF THE "ARAGON"

BRAVERY OF THE TROOPS.

LONDON, January 31st.
Letters from survivors are published
describing the loss of the transport
Aragon. They state that there were
troops aboard. The boat was torpedoed
after parting company with a troopship
and was twelve miles from her destination.
She sank in fifteen minutes, with
hundreds of troops aboard still singing.
There were fifty nurses on board.
An officer writes that his men, in
response to a bugle call, formed up
splendidly on the deck and helped the
nurses into the boats, and never offered
to get in themselves, although the ship
was heeling and sinking rapidly. The
soldiers stood till the ship heeled so far
that they fell against the railings. Then
the Colonel gave the order "Abandon
Ship." The writer clutched an oar
floating in the water, and was rescued
by a boat.

A nurse writes of how the "Tommies,"
standing at their posts, cheered the nurses
when they left the boats. The latter
saw the *Aragon's* bows in the air, and
yet the troops aboard were singing.
Several trawlers steamed up and were
soon actively rescuing the men struggling
in the water.

THE INSEPARABLE MONOCLE.

A funny sight amid the tragedy was
that an officer, who had always worn a
monocle aboard the ship, was sitting on
a raft in the sea still wearing the monocle
amid the rescue work.

Another dreadful explosion occurred
and a destroyer, crammed with troops it
had just rescued, was torpedoed and
sunk. It was terrible to see these poor
boys go down again.

OBITUARY.

MR. ALFRED DE ROTHSCHILD.

LONDON, February 1st.
The death is announced of Mr. Alfred
de Rothschild.
[The late Mr. Alfred Charles de Rothschild,
C.V.O., was a partner in the firm of Messrs.
N. M. Rothschild & Co. He was born in
London on July 20th, 1842, and was for
some years a Director of the Bank of Eng-
land, as well as a trustee of the National
Gallery and of the Wallace Collection,
Hertford House. He held the Legion
d'Honneur of France.]

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

POSSIBILITY OF AN "UNFOR-
TUNATE" PEACE.

According to Reuter's Correspondent
at Petrograd, M. Trotsky, addressing the
Soviets Congress, foreshadowed the pos-
sibility of an "unfortunate" peace.

ATTEMPT ON LENIN'S LIFE.

LONDON, February 1st.
A telegram from Petrograd says that
another attempt on M. Lenin's life has
been defeated. A student entered the
Smolny Institute and fired a revolver,
which missed. He has been arrested.

KIEFF SURRENDERS.

PETROGRAD, February 1st.
Bolshevik troops have occupied Kieff,
the town surrendering after four shots
had been fired.

TARTARS CHALLENGE
BOLSHEVIKS.

The Tartars are challenging the Bol-
shevik supremacy. They have accepted
the proffered aid of the Ukrainians.

BOLSHEVIKS AND COSSACKS
FIGHTING.

Fighting has begun between Cossacks
and Bolsheviks at Astrakhan.
ROUMANIAN SHIPPING SEIZED.
It is reported that the Bolsheviks have
seized Roumanian shipping at the
Russian Black Sea ports.

Aerial Activities.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE AIR RAID ON PARIS.

HOSPITALS BOMBED AND BUILD-
INGS BURNED.

PARIS, January 31st.
An official message states:—Four
enemy air squadrons crossed the lines
north of Compiègne, flying very high,
owing to the clearness of the atmosphere.
They approached Paris from the north
and north-east and dropped bombs suc-
cessively on several suburbs.

They then flew over Paris, chiefly on the
right bank of the Seine, where they dropped
almost all their bombs in a few
minutes.

Two hospitals were hit and several
buildings were burned and damaged.
There were several air fights north of
Paris.

A German aeroplane was brought down
and two occupants taken prisoners.
A French aeroplane had to land, the
occupants being wounded.

THE CASUALTIES.

PARIS, February 1st.
A communiqué states that the casu-
alties in the air raid are 38 dead,
including 22 in Paris and 14 in the
suburbs; 130 injured, 114 in Paris and
76 in the suburbs. Many women and
children were killed and injured. Three
hospitals were struck, one of which
caught fire.

Sixty French aeroplanes ascended.

NAVAL AIR RAID.

LONDON, February 1st.
The Admiralty announces that naval
aeroplanes bombed Engel aerodromes and
dumps.
Direct hits were obtained and fires
started.
All our machines returned.

Franco-Belgian Front.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH FRONT.

BRITISH CAPTURE PRISONERS.

LONDON, February 1st.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig re-
ports:—Patrols secured prisoners in vari-
ous sectors.
There was hostile artillery firing south
of the Arras-Cambrai Road.

AVIATION.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, re-
porting on aviation, says:—We heavily
bombed an aerodrome south of Ghent, a
dumpy eastward of Roulers and railway
sidings at Courtrai. We also machine-
gunned troops in transport and batteries
in action. We brought down four enemy
machines, drove down four uncontrolled
and shot down another by gunfire. All
our machines returned. We bombed, at
night, dumps, billets and railway
stations.

ENEMY RAID FRUSTRATED.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig re-
ports:—We repulsed an attempted raid
west of Arleux-en-Gohelle, capturing
prisoners.
There is hostile artillery firing in the
neighbourhoods of Goudacourt and
Lens.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TOMORROW.

11.30 a.m.—Union Waterboat Co., Ltd.,
Meeting of Shareholders in the Offices
of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saturday, 9th Feb.—
11 a.m.—Kowloon Land and Building Co.,
Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.
11.30 a.m.—Humphreys Estate and Finance
Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the
Hongkong Hotel.

Thursday, 14th Feb.—
12.30 p.m.—China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,
Extraordinary General Meeting.

Tuesday, 19th Feb.—
Noon—Hongkong, Canton and Macao
Steamboat Co., Ltd., Meeting of Share-
holders.

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL
REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, February 2nd.

	Previous Day at 4 p.m.	On Date at 4 a.m.	On Date at 4 p.m.
Barometer	29.97	30.00	29.94
Temperature	62	5	60
Humidity	61	94	80
Wind Direction	East	East	East
Force	3	4	5
Weather	0	0	0
Rain	0	0	0

Highest open-air temperature on 2nd 63.
Lowest open-air temperature on 2nd 55.

HONGKONG TIDE TABLE.

From 4th to 10th February, 1918.

From 4 h to 10th February, 1918.

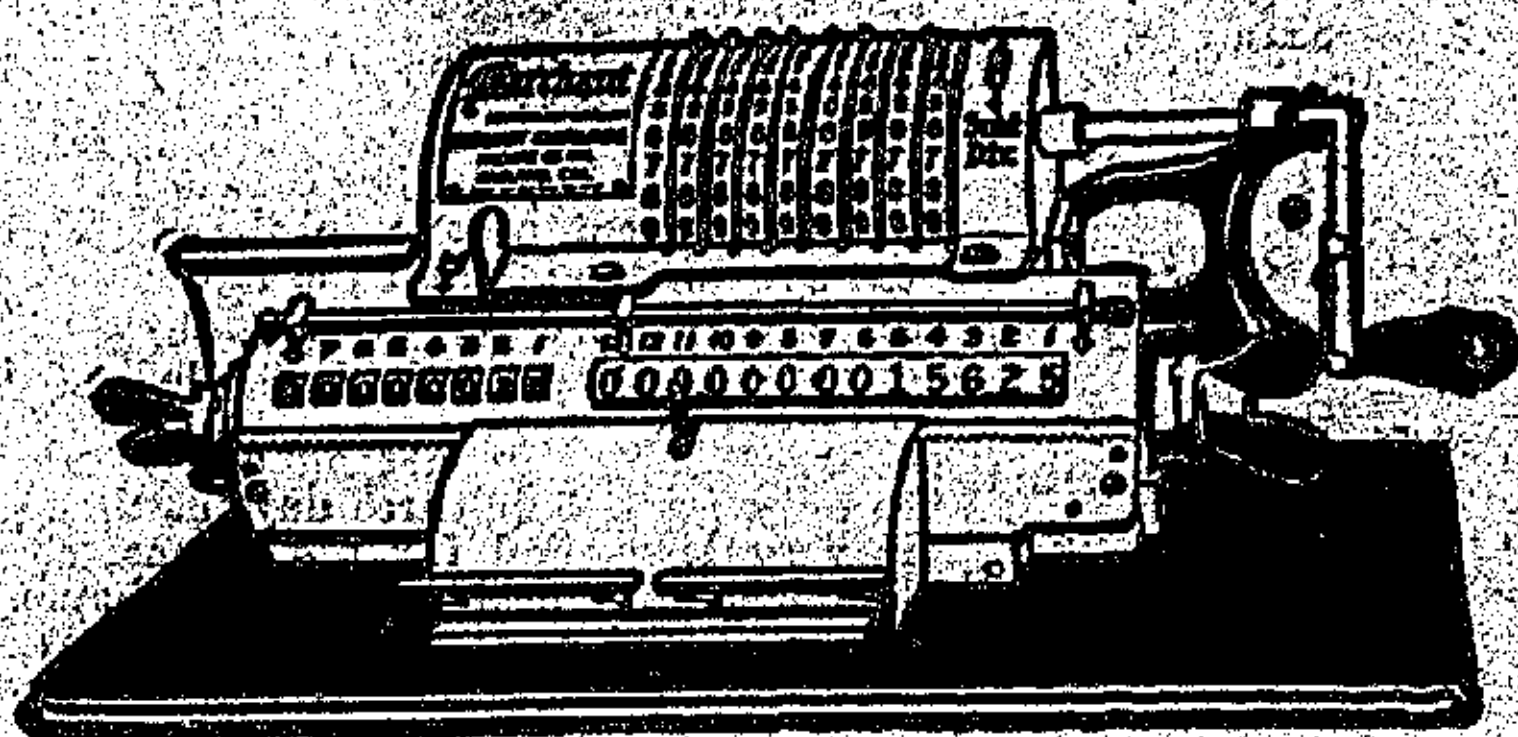
		HIGH WATER.		LOW WATER.	
Day of Week	Days of Month	H'kong Mean Time	Height	H'kong Mean Time.	Height
		h. m.	f. in.	h. m.	f. in.
Mon.	4	m 1 45	4 3	m 7 31	3 2
		2 31	3 6	m 10 40	3 2
Tue.	5	m 3 39	3 7	m 8 6	3 4
		3 34	5 3		
Wed.	6	m 5 43	2 3	m 0 0	3 7
		4 36	4 4	m 8 23	3 6
Thurs.	7	No infer.	high	m 1 0	3 0
		4 17	2	no low.	water
Fri.	8	m 8 12	2 2	m 1 45	3 5
		6 33	7	m 4 43	2 0
Satur.	9	m 6 38	4 0	m 2 25	2 3
		7 25	7 7		
Sun.	10	m 9 8	4 3	m 3 53	0 9
		8 16	8	1 42	3 8

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE TANK BANK IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

LONDON, December 10th.

One of the most picturesque events of late has been the appearance of the "Tank Bank" in Trafalgar Square. It was one of those Tanks which has done such magnificent work on the Western front; and during the fortnight that it was located under the shadow of the Nelson column it drew money out of the public for War Bonds to the tune of nearly 24 millions sterling. It was a bright and original idea to bring into the Square on the morrow of the big push before Cambrai one of the monsters which materially helped towards breaking a gap in the Hindenburg line. Smart girls were kept busy from dawn till dusk exchanging Bonds for notes; and even after dark acetylene lamps were utilised to illuminate the scene, in spite of possible danger of the light serving as a guide to German air-raid raiders to reach the heart of London.

Scores of thousands of people were attracted to the "Tank Bank" out of curiosity, but the majority who went to see the sight put "something in for the kiddie" if not as a personal investment. Thus the country gained a trifle of a few millions of money. The Tank has now rumbled out of the Square for a tour of the provinces with every prospect of making more for the State wherever it goes. There is no doubt that a vast amount of money is still lying untapped despite the War Loans.

TRYING TO SET LONDON ABLAZE.

After five weeks of inactivity the Gotha came over the other night on another murder raid on London. They lost two machines, and were badly "rattled" by the defensive barrage, which is now put up round the Metropolis when they appear. They took, as usual, a certain toll of civilian life, but achieved no military advantage.

The point of interest to note is that the latest raid disclosed that the German plan is undoubtedly to try to set London on fire. In their official report they are told that as the result of the aviators' bombardment "large and numerous fires were seen," showing the "effectiveness of their attacks." It is true that a number of fires were caused in London, but all were soon got under control, and scarcely any material damage was done. The only result, "for the time," as the *Illustrated London News* aptly observed, "is to harden our determination and to make us resolved, at all costs, to persevere until we secure the defeat of this menace to civilisation."

AN OVERSEA DIRECTORY.

In a quite official way the Commercial Intelligence Department of the Board of Trade is endeavouring to make plans to help British manufacturers and traders abroad. In connection with the scheme for extending British trade overseas the Department is compiling an Index or Directory of British and Irish manufacturers which will be forwarded to Trade Commissioners, Consular officers, and other correspondents of the Department abroad. The object is to enable British officials to deal promptly with enquiries which they may receive for the supply of home manufactures, and to put prospective customers into direct communication with producers with the least possible delay.

Considerable progress has been made with the compilation of this official Directory, but it is as yet incomplete. The sections respecting which information is being specially invited now relate to the china and glass trades, basketware, wood ware, and the brush trade. The Directory, which is for official use only, will obviously be a valuable record, and will, it is hoped, lead to the introduction of new business with home manufacturers from the British Colonies and also foreign countries after the war.

THE QUESTION OF FOOD.

The war has now entered upon a stage when the test of endurance is being applied to the civil population as never before since the fatal 4th of August, 1914, when we entered the arena. It is becoming more and more a question of nerves. Three years of hard, bitter, grinding effort lie behind us, marked by countless sacrifices; and the end is not yet.

The outward and visible sign of the strain is to be seen in the streets outside the provision shops. The food queues both in London and the provinces are becoming common. One does not like to see the spectacle of women and children standing for hours in the rain and cold of December days waiting their turn to purchase a few ounces of tea, or a little butter, or a small portion of meat.

As an emergency measure, the question of food supply presses lightly upon the population at present. What may happen later if the war lasts a long time is a different matter. But the central fact to place upon record is that so far nobody has had to go hungry, though everybody, or nearly everybody, is obliged to eat sparingly. This is important for people abroad to bear in mind if they read highly coloured accounts of privation among the poor coupled with fault-finding with the Government. The real aim of many of these pen pictures is to frighten people otherwise careless or thoughtless into habits of economy. The majority of us are frugal enough whether we will or not for the simple reason that prices are very high—at much as 100 per cent, according to official figures just issued over and above those of July, 1914.

The chief trouble for the time being is inequality in distribution of food supplies. In some parts of the country there may be ample quantities of certain commodities in daily use, while in others these articles cannot be obtained for love or money. It is futile to try to blame the authorities for this. No Government and no scheme devised by Government in the middle of the war could avoid inequalities of this description. To the

(Continued at foot of next column.)

ECONOMISER OF MILLIONS.
A WAR OFFICE ROMANCE.

Here is a new fairy story that is being told in London.

Once upon a time there was stationed in the British capital an officer belonging to a great Allied nation who was responsible for the supply of food and materials to the armies his country was sending to fight side by side with our own upon the Western front. The faster they came the greater grew the difficulties of his task, for his own land was far distant and shipping was scarce, so that he had to look to the British War Office for stores of many kinds. One day it happened that there was made upon him a sudden and urgent demand for incredible quantities of all sorts of things to be delivered with impossible rapidity. His friends gathered round him saying, "What about it?" and he said, "I must go round to the British War House, hoping that they will get a move on and see me through." So he put on his hat and coat and went, and his friends mourned him as one lost in the interminable corridors of the Never-Never House, where men are referred from Department to Department until they die of despair.

When the officer entered the gloomy portals he encountered one who had been all up a form, and his heart sank. But when he had done so, filling in the name of the big dog, to his great surprise the giant bade him pass straight up. He ascended a noble flight of stairs, at the head of which a police messenger received him, and saying "Come this way," led him along a corridor that seemed to extend to infinity; but again, to his surprise, after a few steps the messenger opened a big door and presented him to a pleasant young official who, without delay, led him into an inner room where there sat at a big desk a large, placid-faced man surrounded by piles of filed documents in extraordinarily neat array. Once more he was surprised when the large man proved to be the Very Top Dog whom he desired to see; but a still greater surprise awaited him. For the large man went straight to business, and in two minutes it was all settled.

The officer noted that one of the features of the large man's placid and benign countenance was a broad, level brow, beneath which were a pair of keen eyes wide apart, and that the lower part of his face was of a strength and firmness which even his easy, good-humoured, full-lipped smile did not entirely camouflage. When he had ascertained the officer's requirements he consulted the files of documents and, turning over the pages with extraordinary celerity, ran his finger along lines and columns of figures referring to each of the commodities concerned. He had daily returns showing the quantities in store, the quantities already under requisition, the quantities in course of production. In two minutes he restored his documents to their former neat array, and told the astonished officer that he could have all that he had asked for at the dates he had mentioned.

"(Gee whizz! but this is going some!)" cried the officer as with the whole business settled he descended the stairs. When he returned to headquarters his friends were overcome with amazement and joy. "What good fairy has wrought this wonder?" they asked, and the officer, taking off his cap, said, "It was the large fairy that delivers the good."

But the most surprising thing of all in this fairy story is that it came true, and was true, and is really happening in London every day. The real name of the large fairy is Andrew Weir, and the magic word he waves is called Business System. He has only been at the War Office since last March, and he has done marvels. His official title is "Surveyor-General of Supply." It is a new office which combines and co-ordinates a number of functions that were formerly separate.

Few people outside the high circles of business and finance know anything about him, but in shipping he has long been known as one of the master-minds of business. He was a Kirkcaldy boy who just went to Glasgow and became a great shipowner, and then went on to London and became a super-shipowner. He knows all there is to know about things such as products and raw materials, processes and markets, because he wanted to know and had the capacity of learning. He is a master of systems.

Mr. Bonar Law, an old acquaintance, knew that Mr. Weir went to the War Office last spring, with a competent staff of voluntary helpers, to have a look round. He spent six weeks in finding out how things were done or not done, and why, and at the end of the six weeks he sat down and drew up a scheme of reorganisation which was accepted and committed to his direction.

It has worked a fairy change. Nobody at the War Office works any harder than before—they all worked to the utmost before they arrived—but they work under a better system, and therefore work better. He knows exactly what they are all doing, and they know he knows. There is a wonderful system of records and accounts which enables the Surveyor-General to survey everything. Figures to him mean as much as music to a musician. He has a feeling for statistics which is the expression of Business System.

He is saving the country millions. Before the creation of his department it was nobody's business to exercise the broad and comprehensive control which only became possible by means of the complete organisation which he has devised.

The big war which demanded big things done is discovering big men to do them. Andrew Weir is one of the very big ones. He never makes speeches, plays no games, has no regulations of hobbies or foibles. C.E.M. in the *Daily Mail*.

grumblers the best answer is:—"We are at war!" It would be something in the nature of a miracle if, as a nation, we did not feel the pinch somewhere by now; and after all the fact remains that this country is better off than any other country in Europe, not excepting the neutrals—H.B.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

PRUSSIAN "REFORM."
ILLUSORY CONCESSIONS.

The so-called Prussian Reform Bills, which have now been presented to the Diet, are three in number: a Bill concerning Elections to the Lower House of the Diet, a Bill concerning the Composition of the Upper House of the Diet, and a Bill regarding Alterations of the Constitution. The third Bill alone has the respective powers of the two Houses as regards control of finance. There is no covering Bill, as had been expected in some quarters, so that it remains to be seen whether the Government or the Diet, or both, will regard the three Bills as one measure, which must stand or fall as a whole.

It may be said at once (writes the former Berlin correspondent of the *Times*), that the Bill concerning Elections to the Lower House fulfils, in the letter, the promise given by the Kaiser last Easter. The new Prussian franchise is to be, in theory at least, "universal," the ballot is to be secret, and elections are to be direct. But there the reforms end. The franchise is carefully hedged about, there is to be no real redistribution of seats, and, above all, the reform of the Lower House is more than balanced by the reactionary constitution and increased powers which are to be given to the Upper House.

First as to the franchise. The voting age, which is 21 in elections to the Reichstag, is actually to be raised in Prussia from 24 to 25. Secondly, the residential qualification, which is at present six months, is raised to 12 months, and every voter must have been a Prussian for three years. Every candidate for election must be over 30 years of age. The only provision concerning redistribution is that a second Deputy shall be elected in any electoral district which contains more than 250,000 inhabitants; the only effect of this is to increase, by a total number of 12 Deputies, the representation of certain large towns. On the other hand, a clause which is deliberately aimed at Berlin, provides that, where a commune includes more than one electoral district, the electoral district and not the commune shall be the basis of residential qualification. Thus, while Germans who move into Prussia from other parts of Germany will be disqualified for three years, and workmen who do not remain for one year in the same place will be disqualified permanently, a move from one part of Berlin to another, and even removals within limited areas of Berlin, will entail disfranchisement.

Members of the active Army are excluded from the franchise, and it seems to be admitted on all hands that the residential qualifications will disfranchise, for the purposes of the first elections after the war, the bulk of the German Army.

A PACKED HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Bill concerning the Composition of the Upper House is a Prussian masterpiece. Apart from members of the Hohenzollern family, the Upper House is to consist of 100 members, of whom 380 will be "presented" to the King for election, and 150 will be selected at the King's pleasure—that is to say, by the Government. The limitation of the number of individual appointments to 150 is one of the most important features of the Bill. It makes it impossible for Junker "rebellions" to be overcome by the creation of peers.

Of the 380 "presented" members, 10 will be members for life, 108 will retain their membership as long as they retain their offices or qualifications, and 192 will be members for 12 years. The life members (60) are mediators between the representatives of the aristocracy. The 108 members (108) are 36 burgomasters, 36 large landowners, whose property must have been in the same family for 50 years, and 36 heads of great industrial and commercial undertakings. The 192-year members (192) are 72 representatives of local administrations in town and country, three representatives of Berlin, one representative of the province of Hohenzollern, 20 representatives of agriculture, 30 representatives of trade and industry, 12 representatives of the Chamber of Artisans, 16 University Professors, 10 representatives of the Evangelical Church, and six representatives of the Roman Catholic Church.

The main characteristics of the new Upper House are clear. First and foremost, there is to be no representation of labour. Secondly, Junker domination is secured and reinforced. Thirdly, the backing of "trustworthy" industrialism. The draftsman of the Bill has shown a charming ingenuity in concealing the Junker representation, which is, of course, scattered over the various categories—representatives of the aristocracy, large landowners, representatives of rural administrations, and representatives of agriculture.

The following are some of the most instructive passages in the explanatory statement which is appended to the Bill:

State constitutions, if they are to continue to maintain the community between State and people, and to correspond with the needs of the people's life, must adapt themselves to public development in the industrial, economic, and social spheres. It is one of the duties of the State Government to initiate the necessary reforms in due time, if the constitutional institutions are no longer in full harmony with the spirit and need of the time.

If the Lower House of the Prussian Diet is in future to be based upon the equal franchise, the Upper House needs to be based upon the classes and professions. Above all, it has to be considered that, side by side with agriculture, in which with the progressive development of a vigorous peasant class, the large landowner has not fully maintained his former position, the industry of Prussia, in all its branches, has developed great power and efficiency. Industrial undertakings have given birth to a class of economic leaders who can claim to have rightly won a place by the side of landed property. The leading men of trade and the heads of German banks have won world renown.

The explanatory statement discusses the apparent, but mainly apparent, restriction in the new Bill of the hereditary principle, and shows that the main objects of the hereditary principle are preserved in various categories of "presented" members. In particular, the statement says:

(Continued at foot of next column.)

AN AMERICAN TRAINING CAMP IN FRANCE.

ABSOLUTE CORDIALITY BETWEEN THE ALLIES.

The training of young American officers which is witnessed at a special camp to-day seems a grimmer and more real, thing in seriousness and intent than anything of the sort could be at either Plattsburg, Fort Sheridan, or any similar camp in America (writes the *Times* Special Correspondent with the American Army in France.) In this school, of which I write, several hundred army officers are working like Trojans, doing everything and learning everything that the enlisted man has to do, so as to do before he can be truly considered a soldier of modern warfare.

There are 37 French and British officers giving instruction: a number to whom I talked expressed enthusiasm at the mental and physical stuff of the future commanders; and it was easy to understand why, after seeing the men at work. For they are the pick of the best training camps coming from every branch of professional life, university graduates, former Army enlisted men, patriotic sons of patriotic fathers, intellect as sure as shooting, they'll deliver the goods, as they would put it themselves. Company formation is preserved among them exactly as if they were enlisted men. Each company is split into two classes of about 75 men each, and to facilitate identification in instruction, every man wears a broad band ribbon around his service hat, these ribbons denoting the particular branch of warfare in which he is specializing—for there are special as well as general classes. Machine-gun, hand-grenade men wear a yellow ribbon, hand-grenade men orange, rifle-grenade men a red, bayonet experts a white, liquid-fire men a blue, and so on; while the good, old-fashioned, tried, and true American riflemen have a band of green.

It is General Bullard's intention that this first lot of men shall act as instructors for those to follow. And a point I noted, with genuine pleasure was the absolute cordiality of the relations between the British, French, and American officers. They were truly as one family and truly working together as brothers and Allies in a great cause.

Before leaving for Headquarters I was driven some miles away to a special school, where American aviation mechanics are receiving instruction from French experts. Courses in repairing all kinds of aeroplanes, the progress, including the practical re-building of a fighting or observation plane. The work of this school consists of text-book and lecture instruction in the afternoon, with practical work in the morning. This consists, in part, of the removal of a machine, by a French expert of some importance or unimportant part. The American has to find out what is missing and put the part back in position, or improvise some other remedy. Every imaginary trouble that can come to an engine is deliberately created, and the student has to locate the trouble and master it. The French instructors are high in praise of the American aptness, as shown in this school, and several told me that as mechanics *les Américains* were *épouvables*.

The limited maintenance of well-proved tradition gives expression to the appreciation by the Prussian State of those old and established families which have played so large a part in the cultural, political, or military history of Prussia that their further representation in the Upper House has a special justification. Similar considerations of history and tradition, and of the actual importance for the State to-day, as in the past, of its old-established large property-owners, lead to the grant of special representation in the Upper House. It is true that, in view of the different composition of the House, there will have to be a numerical diminution of this representation. Moreover, the basis of representation will have to be changed. It is not the fact that property is entailed, but the fact that agricultural property has been held for many years—at least, a generation—by one family, that makes landed property a specially important factor in our State and economic life.

The machinery for "representation" of representatives of classes and professions is for the most part already in existence. It regards the new representation of industry, trade, and banking, it will be in the hands of the large organizations, which, going beyond the framework of local and technical considerations, serve the general interest, and have already proved valuable advisers of the State Government and Departments.

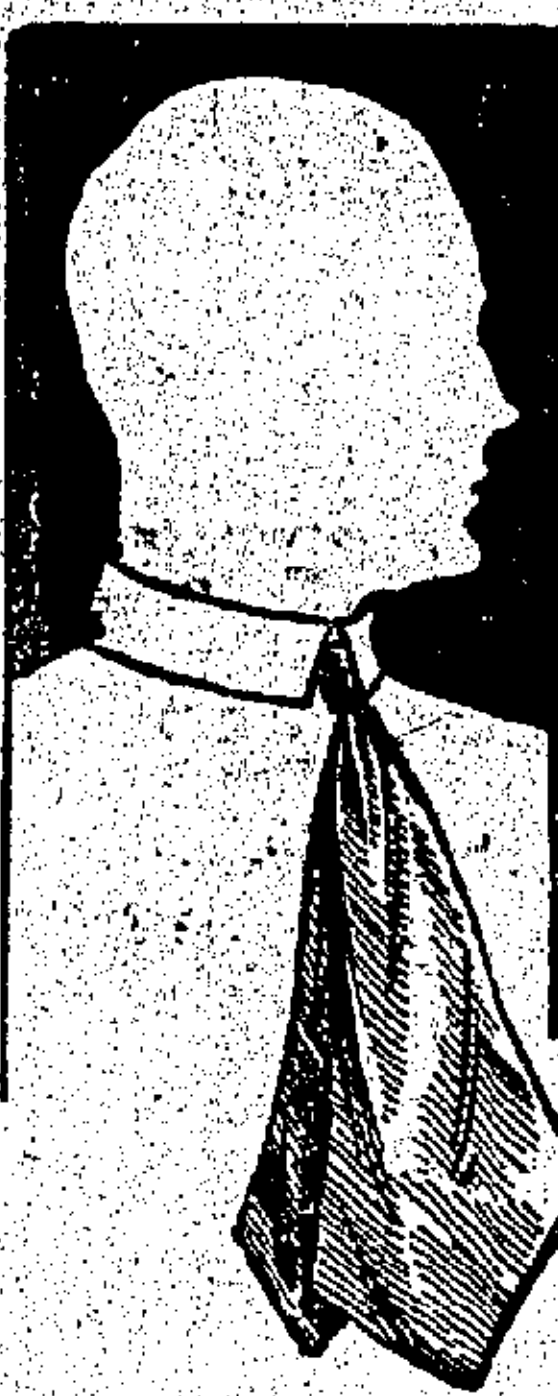
FINANCIAL CONTROL.

Finally, the Bill regarding Alterations of the Constitution enables the Upper House to interfere in the control of finance. At present, the Upper House can only vote upon the Budget as a whole. In future, if the Lower House amends any vote, and refuses to accept the ultimate decision of the Government, the Upper House will be able to arrive at a decision upon this particular vote before dealing with the Budget as a whole. And if the Upper House does not agree with the Lower House, the disputed vote will be referred to a committee of the two Houses. Secondly, the Lower House is deprived of its right to vote additional expenditure without the consent of the Government. Thirdly, the Government will be empowered to continue the expenditure of money, even if the Budget has not been passed at the beginning of the financial year.

Many features of his remarkable scheme are so reactionary that they may have been inserted as material for demonstrative concessions by the Government. But, upon the whole, it would appear that the Government intends to pass the Bills. In the knowledge that they are perfectly harmless, that they cannot conceivably effect any immediate alteration of the balance of power in Prussia, still less in the expression of Prussia's domination of the Empire, and that the future will look after itself. The agrarians and the industrialists are already making the traditional and expected noise, while the same Socialists are uttering only mild disapproval.

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